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SANTA FE COUNTY CORRECTIONS DEPT

MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE COUNTY
CORRECTIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 8, 2013

Santa Fe, New Mexico

This meeting of the Santa Fe County Corrections Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Frank Susman at approximately 3:05 p.m. on the above-cited date at Detention Center Conference Room, Camino Justicia, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The following individuals present:

Members Present:

- Frank Susman
- Mary Ellen Gonzales
- Judy Williams
- Michelle George
- Steve S. Spenser
- Maria Cristina Lopez
- Maria Jose Rodriguez Cadiz
- Mark Caldwell

Member(s) Excused:

- Adan Mendoza
- Joan Morales

Staff Present:

- Pablo Sedillo, Public Safety Department Director
- Tila Rendon-Varela, Department Administrator, Public Safety Department
- Lisa Leiding, RN Administrator
- Ardis Thomas, CQI Coordinator
- Joseph Alaniz, Booking
- Melissa Oberg, Classification
- Mario Lopez, IT
- Tina Sanchez, Behavioral Health
- Tino Alva, EM/Bonds
- Joshua Podlesny, Shift Commander
- Moises Gallegos, Fire Safety and Sanitation
- Nelson Abeyta, Chief of Security

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Introductions

Those present introduced themselves.

Tino Alva stated he was the Program Manager for Electronic Monitoring and he outlined the work of the division. There are seven employees who work on EM around the clock, also posting bonds around the clock.

Dr. Spencer asked if they were transported anywhere after bonding out. Mr. Alva said usually whoever posts the bond takes them away. He added there is a free "blue bus" offered to employees and those bonded out or released.

Mr. Sedillo pointed out that criticism arose when this program was moved to the adult facility from the juvenile facility. At the old location there was a much higher risk of absconding, and it was inappropriate to have adult offenders so close to the juvenile population. The initial objections of the courts have disappeared. The RTD buses have also been very successful. The booking process has been streamlined as well.

Mr. Alva said the EM bracelets are an alternative to incarceration. Participants can be employed, can be with their families and generally facilitate reintegration into the community. There are currently around 132 people on the program, although occasionally it has numbered as high as 355. Mr. Alva explained the drug testing program, standby warrants, testing equipment, GPS tie-in and the various kinds of bracelets.

Mr. Sedillo recounted that during a recent hostage situation Mr. Alva was able to monitor where the hostage taker was in the house through GPS.

Ardis Thomas indicated she is the Continuous Quality Improvement Coordinator. Her duties include submitting statistical data for quarterly reports and working with the compliance manager on policies and procedures. They are currently working on accreditation through the New Mexico Association of Counties, scheduled for August 22nd.

Lisa Leiding, Nurse Administrator, said she runs units at both the adult and juvenile facilities. An assessment is done upon admission. The medical unit administers medications and handles after-hours emergencies.

Ms. Rodriguez Cadiz from Solace, the Rape Crisis Center, asked if there was anything that was needed in the area of sexual violence. Ms. Leiding stated they have been working to comply with the Prison Rape Elimination Act. Ms. Rodriguez Cadiz said a PREA training was given in Grants where they have a hot line inside the facility which greatly facilitates reporting. Mr. Sedillo said it's good having a direct line since there can be reluctance to report problems. Ms. Rodriguez Cadiz said she can be at the detention center in 10 minutes.

Booking Manager, Joseph Alaniz explained the booking process. Transports are also arranged out of this division. There are approximately 10,000 intakes a year. Mr. Caldwell said there were 2,414 bookings for the last quarter.

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In regards to booking information, Mr. Alaniz said they look for identifying information: Social Security number, identifying marks, aliases, date of birth. They do not ask for immigration status. For those with no fixed abode, they look into last known address and they work with St. Elizabeth's shelter.

Melisa Oberg, Classification Supervisor, stated she has seven case managers working under her throughout the facility. Inmates are classified according to current offense, history, escape history. Currently there are 206 people in minimum custody, 93 medium and 231 maximum.

Mario Lopez, IT Supervisor, indicated he assists with statistical reports at both the juvenile and adult facilities. He troubleshoots all the electronic equipment.

Shift Commander Lt. Joshua Podelsny supervises 16 workers.

Lt. Moises Gallegos introduced himself as being in charge of fire safety, sanitation, the warehouse and laundry. Mr. Caldwell noted they have just done an assessment of the facility with an eye to recycling.

Chief of Security Major Nelson Abeyta said he oversees the entire operation and oversees the lieutenants to ensure quality of life in the facility. His job is to keep the warden informed of everything that is going on. He has seven lieutenants and is interviewing for one more.

Tina Sanchez, the Interim Behavioral Health Director explained people come in with acute issues – suicide ideation or intoxication, for instance – and with chronic issues for which they are receiving treatment. This encompasses approximately 80 percent of the population. An Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) meets regularly to review problems and possible aftercare referrals, such as to the sobering program. Mr. Sedillo said they practice continuous case planning (CCP) that entails case management of both physical and behavioral issues.

In response to a question by Ms. Lopez, Mr. Caldwell said the average stay was 9.5 days. Ms. Lopez asked about ICE detainers and Mr. Alaniz stated the names of current inmates are on the website which is reviewed by ICE. The detention center is not involved in notification.

Regarding case management, Mr. Sedillo said various divisions overlap and interrelate in a multi-disciplinary fashion. He pointed out the medical unit plays a key role. Although a triage is done at intake, there is a complete assessment after 14 days. He said they are currently seeking a medical director having received no responses from the latest RFP. They hope to find someone inside the County. They were spending \$38,000 per month on agency nurses and that is now down to \$6,000 to \$7,000 per month, preferring to have vested employees.

Understanding the high percentage of inmates with health issues, a discussion ensued regarding the jail, versus the psyche ward at the hospital. Mr. Sedillo said, "We are not a psyche hospital." Additionally, St. Vincent Hospital won't accept anyone in the EM program. He said the full-time psychiatrist is Dr. Dulanto. Mr. Caldwell indicated at least 200 people per quarter need advanced care.

Mr. Sedillo commended the staff, pointing out they all receive CIT – critical intervention technique training. He mentioned detention centers are harder to run than penitentiaries. He said the booking area is the most dangerous place. They identify problems, come up with an action plan and move forward.

Announcements

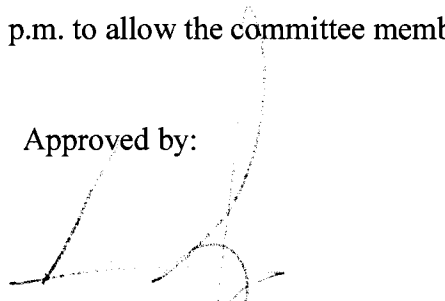
Action on the previous minutes was deferred.

Next meeting was scheduled for September 12th at 3 p.m. at the Juvenile Facility.

Adjournment

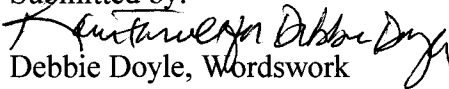
This meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:55 p.m. to allow the committee members the opportunity to tour the facility.

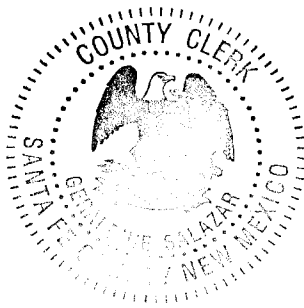
Approved by:



Frank Susman, Chair

Submitted by:

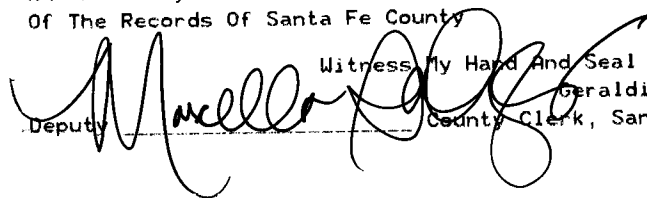

Debbie Doyle, Wordswork



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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 17TH Day Of October, 2013 at 12:50:44 PM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1720866
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Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salazar
Deputy County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

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